Minister’s Report  Rev. Sarah C. Richards  October 2018
Reporting period 9/11-10/7/18

Worship: Planned, wrote and delivered sermons “Hold Fast and Let Go,” “Daydream or Nightmare?” and “Give and Take.”

Set hymns (communicated with Music Coordinators, accompanists), selected readings, TFAA stories, crafted Orders of Service drafts, Service scripts, and slides for services that I led.

Rites of passage: facilitated informal memorial gathering for former member Bill Rose. Thanks to Al Babbitt and other CUF folks who made it a meaningful evening for Bill’s family and friends.

Counseling and Pastoral Care: Made more than usual pastoral visits, calls, emails and notes. Met with Pastoral Friends to review pastoral updates and activities, complete our Continuing Education schedule.

Practical Arts/Administration:
- Met or communicated with BOT President weekly.
- Attended September BOT meeting.
- Met or communicated with RE Coordinator Jodi Ruffner weekly.
- Met with Office Administrator weekly. Edited the weekly Bulletins.
- Wrote October Minister’s Column, Service Descriptions for October CUF Links.
- Sat in on Nominating Committee meeting.
- Attended monthly Sunday Services meeting.
- Attended special Membership meeting to plan 10/14 Activity Fair.
- Recruited volunteers and Office Administrator to join me on a teleconference with Lifetouch and help with coordinating the Photo Directory process. Many thanks to Mary Campbell, Pam Jacobini, Yo Presley and DeSande R for all their hard work!

Organizational Ministry:
- Planned Congregational photo for 10/7 with Miriam Link-Mullison; along with the Photo Directory and Activity Fair, it contributes to encouraging membership engagement.
- Led Soul Matters Covenant Group for Facilitators; 7 of 8 facilitators were able to meet at our first post-training CG. I’m especially pleased that all 8 facilitators (and me) attended a training webinar this fall.
- Met with Committee on Shared Ministry chair to go over Emeritus Minister process approved at September Board meeting (COSM didn't have a meeting in September).

Personal Growth: exercise, daily poetry reading, practicing mandolin.
**Professional Growth:** met with Family Systems Coach, Mentor, Minister Cohort.

**Teaching:** Led sessions 4-6 of BYOT II: Exploring course (“Sin and Salvation: Are We Saved?,” “Eschatology: How Do We Account for Evil?,” and “Justice and the Beloved Community: What is Our Place in the World?”). I’ve really enjoyed our rich discussions.

**Denominational Activities:** Attended day-long Southern Illinois UUANI workshop at Mt. Vernon with four CUF members, as well as members of the Alton and Mt. Vernon congregations. Met with UUANI Board Member to review the workshop and future steps.

**Prophetic Outreach:**
- Joined in the SIIRP lullaby sing to highlight ongoing plight of immigrant children separated from their families.
- Attended first part of monthly Carbondale Interfaith Council meeting, left early in order to introduce video of Brittany Packnett’s Ware Lecture (2018 GA) for a Racial Justice Coalition-Race Unity sponsored 11 Days of Peace event.
- Attended Rainbow Café Gala at CUF – what a wonderful evening affirming the life-saving work of RC, and all those (including many CUF folks) who made it possible.